

REMARKS

In the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (Voluntary Revised Practice) dated July 8, 2003, it is indicated that, for the Amendment and Response to Office Action filed June 24, 2003 to be compliant with rule 1.121, the applicants must submit the changes to the specification in paragraph form.

Applicants submit herewith the specification changes in paragraph form and a complete listing of the claims with their current status, as required, to cause the Amendment and Response to Office Action to be fully compliant. Applicants' Remarks as submitted on June 24, 2003 are re-submitted below. The Examiner is invited to call the applicants' undersigned representative to discuss any issues relating to this application.

Examination is requested of the claims and specification as amended herein. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the figures and supporting text. Also included with this Response are copies of the articles referenced in the specification and requested by the Examiner.

The Examiner has rejected claim 27 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as the invention. Claim 27 is hereby amended to claim dependency from independent claim 16, thereby obviating the rejection. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

The drawings are objected to as lacking Figs. 29 through 34 as described in the context of the paragraph at page 13, line 7. The specification is hereby amended to correctly recite the description as being directed to Figs. 23 through 24. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

It is noted that any trademarks should be capitalized wherever they appear.

Applicants hereby amend the specification at page 17, line 2 to indicate that the term “Windows NT” is a registered trademark.

The Examiner objects to the disclosure, indicating that the specification must be updated to include the current status of U.S. Application Number 09/476,846. The specification is hereby amended to indicate that the application is now pending.

The Examiner further objects to the specification as both lacking a description of reference legends and how the program proceeds at certain steps as is required by 37 CRF §§ 1.84 and 1.121(e). Specifically, the Examiner indicates an absence of reference legend 20 in Fig. 2 and 36 in Fig. 3, as well as how the program proceeds if the inquiry is “NO” after boxes 62 in Fig. 4, 86 in Fig. 14 and 102 in Fig. 15A. Applicants hereby amend the specification to include the omitted reference legends and description of the program progression as illustrated by the figures; no new matter has been added.

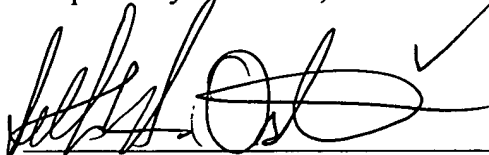
Finally, the Examiner indicates an error in the specification whereby Applicants inadvertently swapped the description of reference legends 2A and 26B in the paragraph at page 17, line 3. Applicants hereby amend the specification to correct this error.

As per the Examiner’s request, enclosed are copies of the William S. Cleveland article entitled “Visual and Computational Considerations in Smoothing Scatterplots by Robust Locally Weighted Regression” and the N.B. Booth and A.F.M. Smith article entitled “A Bayesian Approach to Retrospective Identification of Change Points”.

As the Examiner concedes, claims 1 through 26 and 28 through 61 are not taught by the prior art and are therefore allowable. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claim 21 to depend on independent claim 16, thereby overcoming the rejection under 35 USC §112. It is believed that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. To expedite prosecution of this application to allowance, the examiner is invited to call the applicants' undersigned representative to discuss any remaining issues relating to this application.

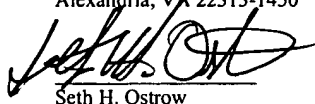
Dated: August 6, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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